

# ARKANSAS' STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

## ➤ GENERAL

### ❑ STATE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES (303.300)

#### ***ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA***

All infants and toddlers (birth to 36 months) who:

- experience developmental delays or
- have a diagnosed physical or mental condition which has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay are eligible for early intervention services.

#### **Developmental Delay**

The Definition of children who are experiencing "Developmental Delays" includes: children who have been diagnosed by a multidisciplinary team as having a significant delay of 25% in one or more of the following areas of development::

- physical (including hearing and vision),
- cognitive,
- communication,
- social or emotional and
- adaptive skills.

**Appropriate testing, observations, and informed clinical opinion shall be used by qualified personnel to identify that a developmental delay or disability exists which constitutes eligibility for the program and for services to address the documented area of delay. The use of informed clinical opinion is especially important if there are no standardized measures, or if the standardized procedures are not appropriate for a given age or developmental area. Informed clinical opinion will be included in all written narrative evaluation reports and will be considered by the team when determining eligibility or the need for specific services. Informed clinical opinion will make use of qualitative and quantitative information to assist in forming a determination regarding difficult-to-measure aspects of current developmental status and the potential need for early intervention. Informed clinical opinion will be established using clinical interviews with parents, evaluation of the child at play, observation of parent-child**

## ❑ **CONTENT OF THE IFSP (303.344)**

### ***Information about the Child's Status***

The IFSP must include a statement of the child's present level of physical development (including vision, hearing, and health status), cognitive development, communication development, social/emotional development, and adaptive development, based on professionally acceptable objective criteria. The level of development must be stated in months and indicate the level/percentage of delay currently demonstrated.

### ***Family Information***

The IFSP must include a statement of the family's resources, priorities, and concerns related to enhancing the development of the child, with the concurrence of the family.

### ***Outcomes***

The IFSP must include a statement of the major outcomes expected to be achieved for the child and the family, including pre-literacy and language skills, as developed appropriate for the child and the criteria, procedures, and timelines used to determine;

- the degree to which progress toward achieving the outcomes is being made, and
- whether modifications or revisions of the outcomes or services are necessary.

### ***Early Intervention Services***

The IFSP must include a statement of the specific early intervention services necessary to meet the unique needs of the child and the family to achieve the outcomes, including:

- How services will be delivered
- Frequency and Intensity -

The number of days or sessions that a service will be provided  
The length of time the service is provided during each sessions, and  
Whether the service is provided on an individual or group basis

- Method -

How a service is delivered.

The team will identify the natural environment in which early intervention services will be provided. Should a service not be provided in the natural environment, the